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- b. a first support object including information in a first file format, the first support object being encapsulated in the document and being capable of supporting a plurality of first lower objects, each first lower object being a lower level object than the first support object in the hierarchical data file structure; and
 - c. a second support object including information in a second file format different from the first file format, the second support object being encapsulated in the document and being capable of supporting a plurality of second lower objects, each second lower object being a lower level object than the second support object in the hierarchical data file structure.

- 11. (Amended) The [hierarchical data file structure] computer system of claim 10 wherein the first file format is selected from a group of file formats including a textual file format, an image file format, and a sound file format; and wherein the second file format is selected from a group of file formats including a textual file format, an image file format, and a sound file format.
- 12. (Amended) The [hierarchical data file structure] computer system of claim 10 wherein, when an operation is performed on a higher level object of the hierarchical data file structure, the operation is also performed on all objects occupying a lower level in the hierarchy than the higher level object.
- 13. (Amended) The [hierarchical data file structure] computer system of claim 10 wherein each object has a plurality of common attributes, including a command for perception of

the object, an ability to pass and receive a message, and an ability to supply and retrieve the data embodied in the object.

14. (Amended) The [hierarchical data file structure] computer system of claim 10 wherein each object is a generic element of the hierarchical data file structure, such that any combination of objects can be grouped together to form a part of the multimedia document.
15. (Amended) The [hierarchical data file structure] computer system of claim 10 wherein the document forms a code segment that receives image information; and wherein the image information is used to construct an image frame for a framed image that is part of the multimedia document.
16. (Amended) The [hierarchical data file structure] computer system of claim 15 wherein the framed image has an image data format; and wherein a decoder determines the image data format and encapsulates the framed image with the image frame.
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